AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

A method of the present invention separates lightweight grains from raw grains. In a primary separation step, raw grains containing the lightweight grains [[is]] are whirled upward with primary air along the inner wall of the cylindrical section for allowing raw grains and part of the lightweight grains to stay in a certain flow area by frictional resistance with respect to the wall surface generated by whirl, and to drop into the conical section on the downside by their own weight. In a secondary separation step, secondary air is blown toward the raw grains dropping into the conical section in the primary separation step to blow the contained lightweight substances upward to the space in the cylindrical section. In a discharging step, raw grains with the lightweight grains removed are taken out from the conical section. A tertiary separation step for blowing the tertiary air may be added.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on the last line of page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

A device called "floss separator" for removing the flosses is known. Fig. [[14]] 21 is a schematic drawing of this device. Resin material containing the flosses fed through a pneumatic transport pipe is injected by a feeding unit 17 into a cylindrical section 1 toward the inner wall of the pipe in the direction in which the pellets and the flosses rotationally move upward at a high-

speed. An exhaust blower, not shown, is connected to an exhaust pipe 2 at the upper portion of the cylindrical section 1, and hence air and the flosses in the cylindrical section 1 are taken out via the exhaust pipe 2. On the other hand, the pellets move upward in whirling motion while rolling on the wall surface, and are separated from the flosses during this process. Consequently, the pellets move downward by gravity, and are taken out from the lower end of a conical section 3.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

It is another object of the invention [[is]] to provide a device which can perform the method described above.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

In order to achieve the first object, in a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of separating lightweight grains from raw grains using a vertical cylinder having, in the order from the top, an exhaust port, a cylindrical primary separation space, a conical secondary separation space, and an unloading port that is comprised of a primary separation step of introducing raw grains containing the lightweight grains, which are to be

separated, together with primary air into the primary separation space in the direction to allow the material to whirl upward along the inner wall surface of the cylindrical section of the primary separation space, so that most ~~part~~ of the lightweight substances contained in the raw grains are guided to the exhaust port by the upwardly flowing airflow in the pipe and the raw grains and part of the lightweight grains stay in a certain flow area by frictional resistance with respect to the wall surface generated by whirl and then are dropped into a secondary separation space by their own weight; a secondary separation step of blowing secondary air into the lower portion of the secondary separation space through a slit to the center toward the raw grains dropping into the conical section in the secondary separation space on the downside in the primary separation step so as to blow the lightweight substances in the raw grains upward to the primary separation space; and a discharging step of taking the raw grains with the lightweight grains removed continuously out from the unloading port at the lower portion of the conical section.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

In order to achieve the second object, in a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided a device for implementing the method of the above first aspect that is comprised of a cylindrical section having an exhaust port at the upper portion thereof; a conical section provided below the cylindrical section; a raw grain feeding unit for feeding raw grains in the direction to whirl the raw grains upward along the inner periphery of the cylindrical section above the conical

section; a lightweight grain separating unit for taking the lightweight grains in the raw grains out from the upper portion of the cylindrical section; a secondary air blowing unit for blowing the secondary air toward the raw grains being dropped from the cylindrical section upward at the lower portion of the conical section to move the fine grains upward to the cylindrical section; and a unit for discharging raw material from the lower portion of the conical section.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

In order to achieve the third object, in a eighth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of separating powder bodies and the like from grains using a vertical cylinder having, in the order from the top, an exhaust pipe, a cylindrical primary separation space, a secondary separation space, and an unloading port that is comprised of a primary separation step of introducing grains containing the powder bodies and the like, which is to be separated, together with primary air into the primary separation space in the direction of whirling along the inner wall surface of the cylindrical section of the primary separation space, moving most ~~part~~ of the powder bodies and the like contained in the grains upward by airflow in the pipe, separating and discharging the powder bodies and the like from the exhaust pipe opening in the direction opposite to the whirling direction, and allowing the grains to drop into the secondary separation space by their own weights; a secondary separation step of blowing secondary air to the lower portion of the secondary separation space through a slit to the center toward the raw grains

dropping into the conical section in the secondary separation space on the downside in the primary separation step so as to blow the remaining powder bodies and the like in the grains upward to the primary separation space; and a discharging step of taking the grains continuously out from an unloading port at the lower portion of the secondary separation space.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

In a ninth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method according to the above eight aspects that is comprised of a tertiary separation step of blowing tertiary air upward from below the secondary air blowing position to blow the remaining powder bodies and the like to the secondary separation space.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

In order to achieve the forth object, in a tenth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a device for separating powder bodies and the like from grains that is comprised of a cylindrical section having an opening of an exhaust pipe for discharging the powder bodies and the like at the upper portion thereof; a conical section provided on the downside of the cylindrical section; a grain feeding unit for feeding grains containing the powder bodies and the like so as to

whirl in the cylindrical section in the direction not opposing the opening of the exhaust pipe along the inner periphery of the cylindrical section; the secondary air blowing unit for blowing high-pressure air at the lower portion of the conical section from a circumferential slit on the conical section toward the grains containing the powder bodies and the like being dropped from the cylindrical section to move the powder bodies and the like upward to the cylindrical section; and a unit for discharging the grains from below the secondary air blowing unit.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

(Discharging Step) In ~~the~~ a similar manner ~~as~~ to the embodiments described above, grains 115 with the powder bodies and the like removed drop further from the lower end of the conical section 3 through the cylindrical section 13, and are taken out continuously from the discharging section from the lower end by the operation of the rotary valve 8.